

**Starvation Deaths at Ponmudi Tea and Rubber Company**

2129. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there were three starvation deaths in June 2000 of tea workers in Ponmudi Tea and Rubber Company in Kerala;

(b) whether State Government has not taken any action against the company for not paying salary to workers for months together; and

(c) if so, the action to deal firmly with the company as a welfare measure of the workers who want to die and demand poison?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Steps To Reduce Unemployment**

2130. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of educated, uneducated, skilled, unskilled youths registered with the Employment Exchanges in the country particularly in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years, State-wise, district-wise, year-wise and category-wise;

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to reduce unemployment in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The number of educated/uneducated job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, registered with the employment exchanges in the country, State-wise for the year ending 1995, 1996 and 1997 (latest available) is given in the statement. (See Below) District-wise